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347
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WORLD RECORD-BREAKING COMIC!

SPAWN

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PREVIOUSLY IN *SPAWN*

The battle for the throne is approaching its apex as fighting breaks out across all realms of Hell and spills into Heaven.

Spawn #347. November 2023. Digital Edition. Published by IMAGE COMICS, PO BOX 14457, Portland, OR 97293 USA. Spawn, its logo and its symbol are registered trademarks © 2023 Todd McFarlane Productions, Inc. All other related characters are TM and © 2023 Todd McFarlane Productions, Inc. All rights reserved. The characters, events and stories in this publication are entirely fictional. With exception of artwork used for review purposes, none of the contents of this publication may be reprinted without the permission of Todd McFarlane Productions, Inc.

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UNTOLD CENTURIES AGO.
NOW... ISN'T THIS A SIGHT.
VIOLATOR?
HEARD MALEBOLGIA SENT THE SCREAMING SISTERS ON YOU, COGLIOSTRO, BUT THIS IS WORSE THAN I IMAGINED.
WHAT'D YOU THINK WOULD HAPPEN AFTER YOU LAUNCHED YOUR COUP?
THAT THEY'D LET YOU LIVE?
WELL, THE GOOD NEWS IS THAT TOMORROW MALEBOLGIA'S LETTING THE CORPSE MAKERS TAKE THEIR TURN ON YOU.
AND YOU KNOW HOW WELL THEY TORTURE.
DON'T KNOW WHAT THEY CALL THAT THING THEY'LL BE DOING TO YOU BUT IT'S ESSENTIALLY A LIVING AUTOPSY.

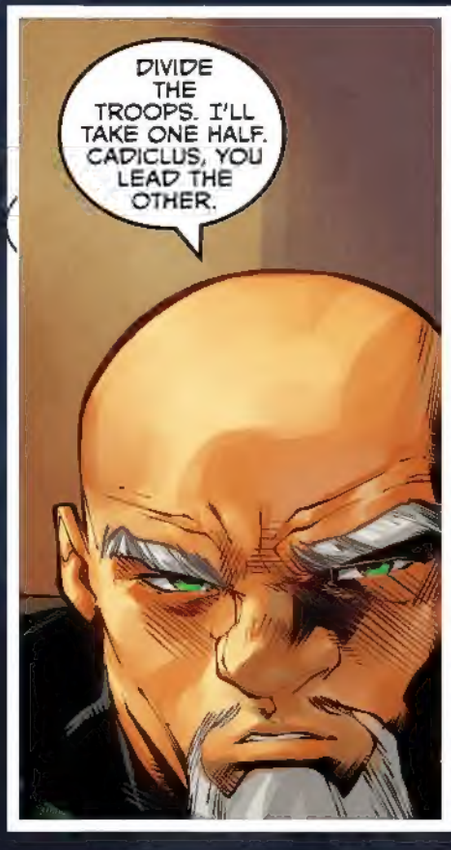
PERSONALLY, I'M CURIOUS ABOUT GETTING A PEEK AT YOUR BRAIN. I'VE ALWAYS WONDERED HOW MISSHAPEN IT MUST BE FOR YOU TO THINK YOU'D EVER HAVE A CHANCE AT BEING THE KING OF HELL?
I MEAN, YOU *REALLY* BELIEVED, THAT DIDN'T YOU? WOW, THE LEVEL OF ***DELUSION.***
TRUTHFULLY, THOUGH? I BLAME MALEBOLGIA FOR ENCOURAGING IT IN THE FIRST PLACE.
HE SHOULD NEVER HAVE GIVEN YOU THAT HELLSPAWN SYMBIOTE.
I SAID HUMANS COULDN'T HANDLE IT. BUT I CAN ASSURE YOU, COG, AS LONG AS I LIVE, YOU'LL ***NEVER*** SIT UPON HELL'S THRONE.

TODAY.
IT'S BEEN CONFIRMED, MY LORD. THE PAST FEW WEEKS, CATACLYSM AND GREENWORLD *HAVE* BEEN SECRETLY BUILDING THEIR FORCES IN THE REGIONS, AND FLANKING EITHER SIDE OF US.

HOW DID OUR SIDE MISS THIS?
THEY'VE BEEN COORDINATING THIS FOR MONTHS. ONE OF OUR OPERATIVES IN THEIR CAMP WAS ABLE TO GET INTEL TO US ABOUT THEIR BUILD-UP.
THEY'RE PLANNING TO TRAP US IN A PINCER. GREENWORLD'S FORCES WILL BE COMING FROM THE EAST. CATACLYSM'S FROM THE WEST. AND THE ATTACK MIGHT COME AS EARLY AS TODAY.

THEN MOVE QUICKLY AND TAKE THE FIGHT TO THEM.

CADICLUS, CAN YOU READY OUR TROOPS?
IF WE MOVE NOW. OTHERWISE WE'LL GET BOGGED DOWN, THEN IT'LL TAKE WEEKS TO GET TO THE THRONE.
THAT *WON'T* HAPPEN.


DIVIDE THE TROOPS. I'LL TAKE ONE HALF. CADICLUS, YOU LEAD THE OTHER.

YOU?!
YOU'RE GOING TO TAKE OVER THE THRONE?
THERE'S NO OTHER OPTION, JESSICA. THATS THE ONLY WAY WE DEAL WITH THIS PROBLEM PERMANENTLY.
THATS WHY YOU LIED TO GET US HERE?
WHO CARES! STOPPING SINN OR CLOWN FROM GETTING TO THE THRONE FIRST, THATS ALL THAT MATTERS.
OTHERWISE, EARTH FALLS!
SO, WE JUST FOLLOW YOU BLINDLY?
YES. OTHERWISE, YOU MIGHT AS WELL JOIN WITH SINN. KEEPING ME FROM THE THRONE JUST LEAVES IT OPEN FOR HIM.
THEN WE WON'T BE ABLE TO STOP HIM.

I'M CONFUSED. WHAT WAS THE POINT OF OUR GOING TO HEAVEN, THEN?
WE NEEDED THE GUN, AND THAT WAS BEFORE THE DEAD ZONES WERE REOPENED. BUT WITH SINN'S HAVING ACCESS TO VAST NECROPLASM RESERVES, I DON'T KNOW IF THE GUN WILL EVEN BE POWERFUL ENOUGH.
AND IF WE COULD STOP SINN, THAT WOULDN'T SOLVE THE PROBLEM. THERE'S ALWAYS GOING TO BE *SOMEONE* CLAWING TO CLAIM THE THRONE.
THE ONLY WAY TO END THIS IS FOR *ME* TO GET THERE FIRST.
WHY SHOULD IT BE *YOU*?

BECAUSE I CAN CONTROL IT.
LIKE YOU CONTROLLED THE DEAD ZONES? YOU REALLY THINK ANYONE HERE TRUSTS YOU WITH THAT LEVEL OF POWER?
YOU'RE WEAK, SIMMONS.
THEN YOU TAKE IT.
OR HOW ABOUT YOU, RAVEN? OR YOU, JESSICA?
YOU'RE RIGHT, IT DOESN'T HAVE TO BE ME. ANY CREATURE BORN OF HELL OR MARKED BY HELL CAN SIT ON THE THRONE.
YOU DON'T WANT ME? FINE. BUT ONE OF YOU NEEDS TO STEP UP AND MAKE THE SACRIFICE. KNOWING YOU'LL NEVER RETURN TO EARTH.
OR EVER SEE ANYONE YOU CARE ABOUT AGAIN.

THE SILENCE IS DEAFENING.
I DIDN'T THINK SO.
THIS IS ALL A CON! YOU WANT THAT POWER FOR *YOURSELF!*
I WANT THE UNIVERSE TO SURVIVE! THAT'S WHAT I WANT, YOU COWARD!

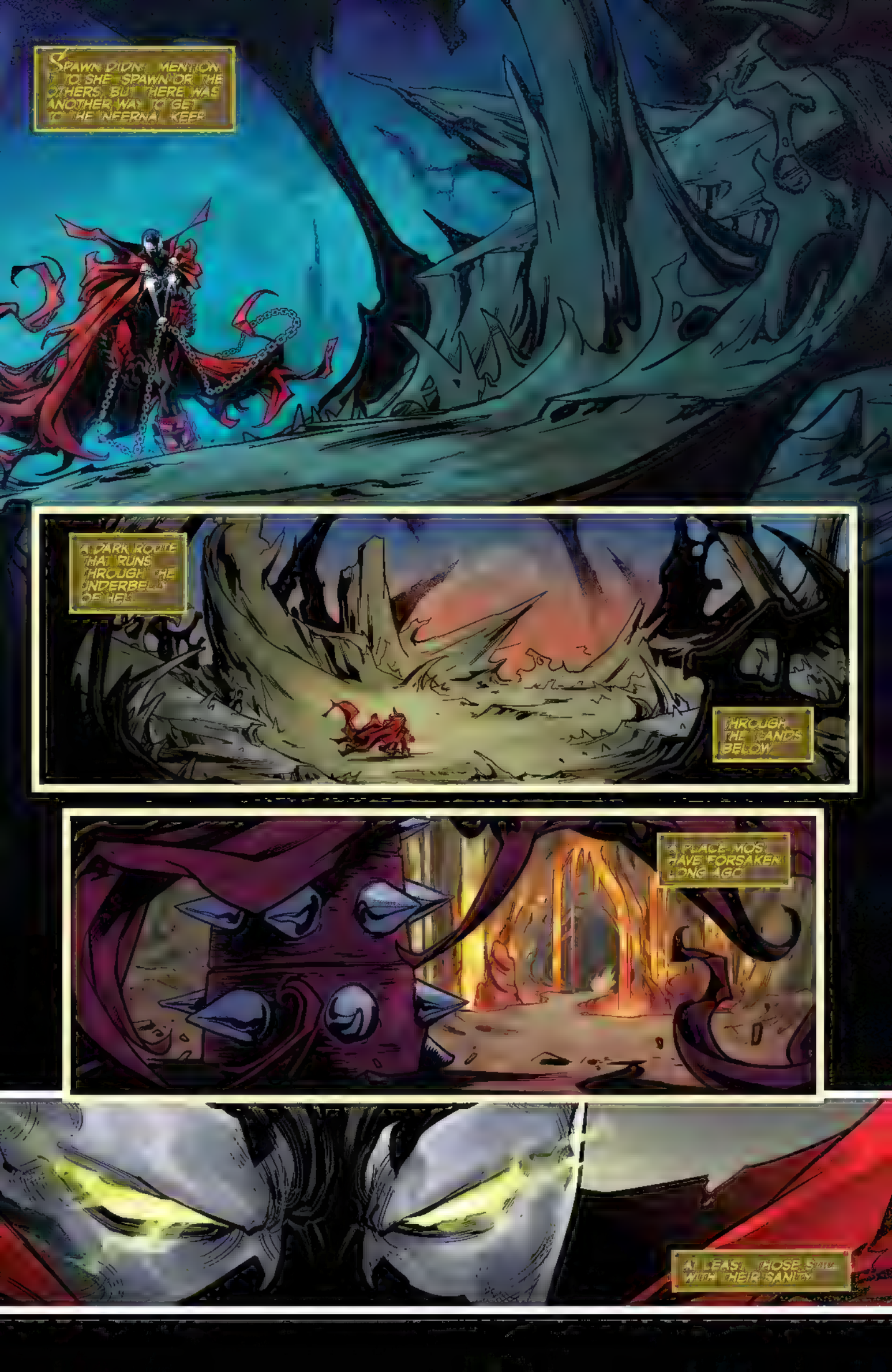
WE ALL WANT THAT!
BACK OFF, MONOLITH!
GET OUT OF THE WAY, BOY.
NOW.
STOP IT! ALL OF YOU!

SIMMONS IS RIGHT, WE DON'T HAVE THE TIME FOR THIS.
WE NEED TO STOP SINN AND RIGHT NOW, OUR BEST CHANCE TO DO THAT IS TO TRACK DOWN THOSE F*CKERS WHO CAPTURED GUNSLINGER AND MEDIEVAL.
AL, I'M NOT GOING TO STAND IN YOUR WAY BUT I'LL BE DAMNED IF I'M GOING TO ABANDON MY TEAMMATES.
ANYONE WHO WANTS TO STAY IS WELCOME TO.
THE REST OF YOU, WE'RE LEAVING IN TWO MINUTES.
ONE BY ONE THEY SLIP AWAY
SIMMONS LETS THEM GO. HE WON'T BEG
THE ONLY ONE WHO PAUSES, EVEN FOR A MOMENT, IS REAPER
IN THE END, EVEN HE TURNS TO HELP SAVE HIS TEAMMATES

THE ATTACK BEGAN IN THE EARLY HOURS.
WE'RE INVESTIGATING EXACTLY HOW THEY MANAGED TO GET IN UNDETECTED. APPARENTLY, THEY ARRIVED THROUGH ONE OF EARTH'S PORTALS.
"CURRENTLY, THE CONFLICT IS CONSIGNED TO THE WESTERN SIDE OF THE VALLEY OF LIGHTS, BUT THE ATTACKERS HAVE MADE SIGNIFICANT INROADS ALREADY. CASUALTIES ARE IN THE HUNDREDS AT LEAST."
"ARE THEY COMING FROM SINN'S SIDE OR CATACLYSM'S?"
IT'S MORE COMPLICATED THAN THAT. WE BELIEVE THIS ATTACK IS BEING CARRIED OUT ON THE ORDERS OF A DEMON KNOWN AS THE CLOWN. IN THEORY, HE'S ALIGNED WITH CATACLYSM, BUT IT'S KNOWN THAT HE HARBORS HIS OWN AMBITIONS FOR THE THRONE.
"THEN SEND OUT THE WORD... WE NEED TO START PULLING BACK AND REDIRECTING SOME OF OUR FORCES IN HEAVEN'S DIRECTION IMMEDIATELY."

HEAVEN?
YES. WE'VE STRETCHED OURSELVES TOO THIN ALREADY. I UNDERSTAND THE THRONE'S IMPORTANCE BUT WE'RE IN DANGER OF *LOSING* CONTROL OF THIS SITUATION, RAPTURE.
WITH ALL DUE RESPECT, YOU'RE OVER-REACTING.
THEY'VE ONLY MADE AN INCURSION AT THE EDGES OF OUR TERRITORY, THEY'RE NOWHERE NEAR THE SHINING CITY ITSELF. THIS IS A SKIRMISH, NOTHING MORE.
THEN YOU'VE SORELY...
WE'VE LEFT AMPLE FORCES BEHIND TO DEAL WITH THEM.
I'M NOT ASKING FOR A FULL RETREAT. WE MAINTAIN A PRESENCE HERE WHILE REDUCING OUR OVERALL FORCES WHILE HELL'S CIVIL WAR RUNS ITS COURSE.
WE SLOW DOWN, NOW IT WILL THEM GIVE TIME TO END THEIR WAR AND HAVE ALL THEM UNITE BEHIND ONE LEADER.
SO, WE STAY THE COURSE. THEY MAY HAVE HAD THE ELEMENT OF SURPRISE BUT THAT WON'T LAST.
WHAT'S MORE IMPORTANT IS PUSHING FORWARD HERE AND CEMENTING OUR VICTORY.
BUT RAPTURE--

I SAID PRESS FORWARD.
DO AS YOU'RE ORDERED.
A SKIRMISH?
HE IS OUT OF HIS F*CKING MIND WE CAN'T KEEP DOING THIS.
HE'S ALWAYS BEEN STUBBORN BUT THIS IS JUST OBSESSIVE
IF WE DON'T CHANGE COURSE SOON, THERE MAY NOT BE A HOME FOR US TO GO BACK TO.
I AGREE. I'M STARTING TO WORRY HE'D LET HEAVEN BURN IF IT MEANT GETTING A VICTORY DOWN HERE.
IT MIGHT BE TIME TO THINK ABOUT WHAT THE FUTURE MIGHT LOOK LIKE *AFTER* RAPTURE.


SPAWN DIDN'T MENTION TO SHE SPAWN OR THE OTHERS BUT THERE WAS ANOTHER WAY TO GET TO THE INFERNAL KEEP
A DARK ROUTE THAT RUNS THROUGH THE UNDERBELLY OF HELL
THROUGH THE LANDS BELOW
A PLACE MOST HAVE FORSAKEN LONG AGO
AT LEAST THOSE STILL WITH THEIR SANITY

BUT AS MENTIONED SPAWN IS OUT OF ANY GOOD OPTIONS
BECAUSE OF THE IMMENSE TOLL THE LAND BELOW DEMANDS OF THOSE WHO ATTEMPT TO JOURNEY THROUGH
NO SIGN OF ALLIES

THE INFERNAL KEEP
WHAT IS THE LATEST FROM THE BATTLEFIELD?
IT'S STILL EARLY, MY LIEGE, BUT WHAT WE'VE HEARD SO FAR HAS BEEN ENCOURAGING.
THE GREENWORLD HAS ENGAGED SINN'S FORCES ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF THE 1st REALM, NEAR THE PESTILENCE FIELDS, AND ARE BELIEVED TO BE FARING WELL.
LESS IS KNOWN ABOUT OUR OWN ARMY'S BATTLES AT LOCUS BLADE, BUT WOULDN'T AT THIS POINT TAKE THAT TO BE ANY CAUSE FOR CONCERN.
AND WHAT OF SINN? HAS HE BEEN SIGHTED?
NOTHING YET, MY LIEGE.

SHE DOESN'T SLEEP MUCH ANYMORE. WHEN SHE DOES, SHE DREAMS IMAGES OF THE MOMENTS RIGHT BEFORE HER DEATH.
BEFORE SHE WAS MURDERED BY SINN.
EVER SINCE, THERE'S BEEN A GROWING SENSE OF UNEASE RISING IN HER.
ON THEIR WAY THERE, JIM ASKED NYX HOW SHE WAS FEELING.
SHE LIED, SAYING SHE WAS FINE.
KNOWING THERE WAS A CHANCE SINN MIGHT GO TO ANOTHER BATTLEFIELD.
THAT PERHAPS SHE COULD PUT OFF FACING HIM FOR ANOTHER DAY.

BUT DEEP DOWN, SHE KNEW IT WOULD COME TO THIS
SO, IT'S TRUE.
I HEARD RUMORS THAT GREENWORLD HAD BROUGHT YOU BACK.
WHAT A WASTE TO HAVE TO KILL YOU AGAIN.
I WAS ABOUT TO SAY THE SAME THING.
SINN ALLOWS A TINY SMILE TO CROSS HIS FACE.
ALMOST ADMIRING HER CONFIDENCE, HOWEVER DELUSIONAL.
FOR NYX, SHE, AS YET, HAS NO IDEA HOW MUCH THIS BATTLE WILL COST HER.

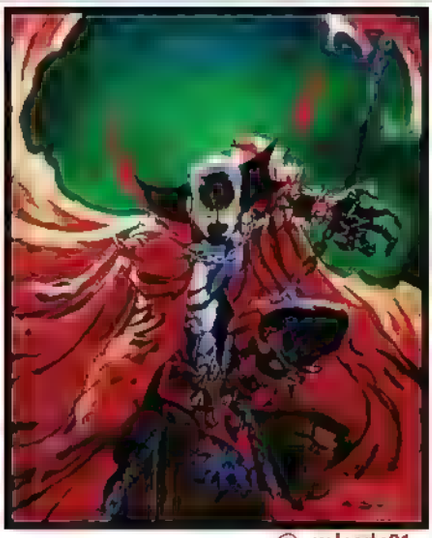
OR HOW MANY OF THOSE STANDING AT HER SIDE WOULD MEET THEIR ENDS THAT DAY

EPILOGUE
THE OTHER SIDE OF HELL
FOR A LONG TIME, SHE HAS WATCHED FROM THE SIDELINES AS THE WORLD GREW DARKER
WHEN THE DEAD ZONES FINALLY OPENED, SHE TOOK HER CHANCE AND ESCAPED FROM HEAVEN, JOURNEYING OUT ACROSS THE VOID BETWEEN WORLDS
IN SEARCH OF ONE MAN
HER NAME IS WANDA FITZGERALD AND SHE HAS TRAVELLED A LONG WAY TO SPEAK WITH AL SIMMONS
TO BE CONTINUED IN...
KING SPAWN #27

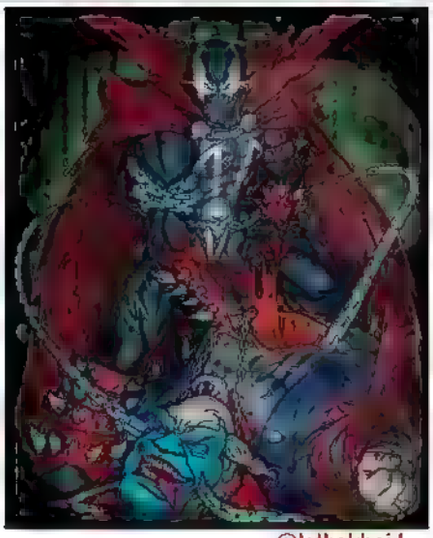
SPAWNING GROUND

PRESENTS:

FAN ART



@_valesita01_



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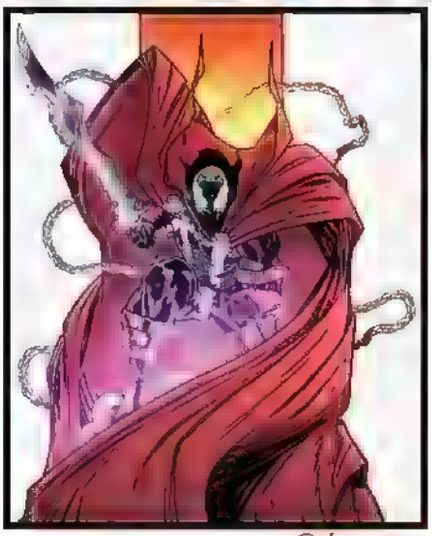

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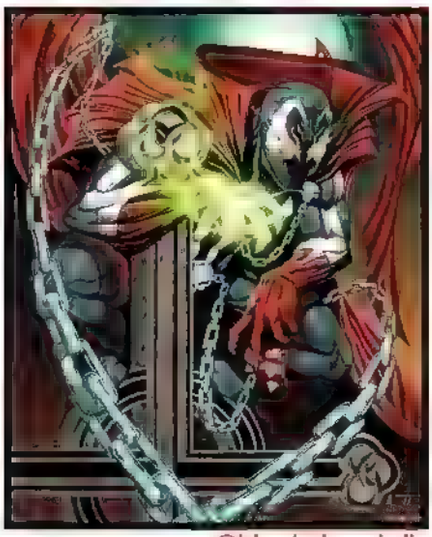

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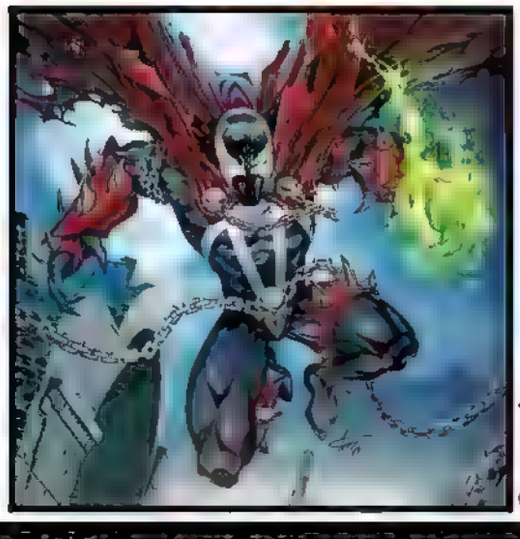

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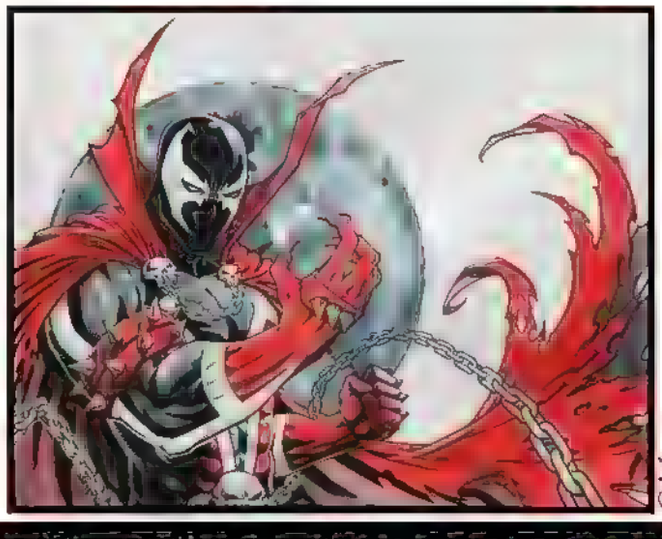

@dafu_yu

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NEED MORE SPAWN'S UNIVERSE?

DON'T MISS THESE ONGOING TITLES:

SPAWN

KING SPAWN

SCORCHED

GUNSLINGER SPAWN

FEATURING COVER ARTIST ZÉ CARLOS IN NOVEMBER 2023!

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